

needed emotional support during a time of tremendous distress. The volunteers provided care for patients as well as caregivers, and represent a light of hope to the entire community.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of Lehigh Valley Hospice, and I applaud the organization's wonderful volunteers for providing a service that aids so many members of the community. Mr. Speaker, all the hospice volunteers are Lehigh Valley Heroes.

HONOREES—LEHIGH VALLEY HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS

Marilyn Ackerman, Robert Allwein, Jennifer Baldwin, Edna Balmat, Debbie Barr, Susan Baxter, Jean Behler, Shirley Beiseigel, Irene Bell, Roy Bertelsen, Rosemary Bobersky, Al Braido, Florence Brown, Lisa Brown, Lois Brown, Diane Buchner, Nadenka Butko.

Penn Clissold, Mary Therese Collins, Karen Connors, Jean Cooper, Dorine Cope, Betsy Cunningham, Alice D'Amore, Rosie Deitrick, Marilyn Demaree, Lou Ditro, Jean Dolan, Chester Dombrowski, Helene Dombrowski, Betty Dorwart, Elizabeth Dorwart, Margaret Duell, Doug Dykhouse.

Mary Earley, Adrienne Ehle, Jean Everett, Gerry Filemyr, Gertrude Flicker, Kathleen Foglia, Dorothy Folk, Helen Fox, Susan Fritz.

Lar Garman, Gail Geist, Steve Gendall, Marion Gewartowski, Joyce Gobrecht, Connie Graaf, Lorraine Gyauch, Mary Haas, Jeanne Hagemes, Susan Hamill, David Hankard, Lori Henninger, Jack Helt, Dorothy Hoffman, Jane Holland, Barbara Hydro.

Karen Jacob, Marymae Jansson, Ann Karas, Pat Keinert, Barbara Kelly, Mary Lou Kenney, Becky Korman, Gina Kramer, Sarah Kutz, Shirley Lafaver, Roberta Lambert, Helen Lamparella, Joan Laudenslager, Margaret Liebl, Martha Lopez, Anne Lynch, Wendy Lynn.

Ed Magocs, Jean Magocs, Kathryn Major, Ken Mangano, Helen Maron, Yvette Martinez, Linette Martino, Joan May, Donnal Mayotte, Suzanne McCready, Anne McCullough, Tracey McGee, Susan McGrath, Jean McNamara, Lettie Mearhoff, Kristy Parks Mesh, Sue Micek, Rodney Miller, Carolyn Momm, Joan Moran, Elsie Mory, Valerie Moyer.

Ruth Nigro, Pat Pluchinsky, Angie Pontician, Sylvia Prorok, Frederika Rhodes, Nancy Rich, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Kim Roth, Lillian Rozenburgh.

Laurette Sabolick, Jean Sauder, Carol Saxman, Marion Schaffer, Ann Schuck, Mary Sechler, Jan Seem, Eileen Serow, Elaine Sheninger, Brenda Smith, Sherri Smith, Brenda Stahley, Kathy Sterner, Justine Stout, Arlan Strubeck.

Fran Tapper, Mary Thompson, Karen Toole, Dorothy Tramontano, Beverly Van Kuren, Jeaninne Wagner, Frank Walsh, Eleanor Wetherhold, Janet Whitehill, Ann Wilhelm, Anne Yori, Rita Zanders, Susan Zern, Bill Zoshak.

In memoriam—Michael McNamara and Ethel Strubeck.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SALUTE TO THE 1999 LOS ANGELES POLICE RESERVE OFFICER OF THE YEAR, SPECIALIST RESERVE OFFICER ERICA DESMITH

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, today I salute my constituent, a resident of North Hills, who truly embodies the spirit of national service.

Erica DeSmith, who is assigned to the LAPD Devonshire Area, was selected as the Los Angeles Police Department's Reserve Officer of the Year for 1999 at the annual Reserve Award's Banquet on March 25th. As a Specialist Reserve Police Officer, Erica DeSmith volunteers her time to the Devonshire Area community-policing program four days a week, seven hours a day, and has amassed over 13,000 hours over the past 6 years.

Officer DeSmith is the mainstay of the community-policing program who takes calls from community members who have problems ranging from graffiti to noisy neighbors to speeding on their streets. She handles the inquiries that do not need direct police response, thus saving countless valuable hours for police officers to focus on other duties and responsibilities.

Officer DeSmith has established a solid reputation with the sworn officers, civilian employees of Devonshire Area, and the community; and is a person who can be relied on to get the job done. Her commitment to the self-excellence, her leadership qualities, and her ability to motivate her fellow officers and all add up to making her an outstanding public servant. Her tireless efforts and personal interest have contributed significantly toward ensuring the success of community based policing in the Devonshire Area.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the unbridled commitment and dedication of Los Angeles Police Specialist Reserve Officer Erica DeSmith. I also recognize thousands of her fellow officers, both sworn and reserve, who give so much of themselves to ensure the safety of our citizens and community, many times at the expense of their own families. Thank you for a job well done.

2000 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3908) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Chairman, last night in my district in McClain County, Oklahoma, a home was completely destroyed in a methamphetamine lab explosion. The ex-

plosion was so intense the toxic waste disposal team could not clean the area for several hours. Every day in Oklahoma, families are exposed to toxic fumes that are disbursed in meth lab explosions. Earlier this month, in Grove, Oklahoma, 26 people were rushed to the emergency room as a result of another meth lab explosion. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation estimates that there are 900 meth labs in Oklahoma, and thousands upon thousands of these illegal meth labs across the country.

The DEA, which funds the clean up of these illegal meth labs, has already run out of funds for this year.

Today, this body has the opportunity to help the people of Oklahoma and thousands of other communities across this country. Representative HUTCHINSON's amendment will use existing Justice Department funds to supply the Drug Enforcement Administration with 15 million dollars to clean up meth labs across the nation.

I urge my colleagues to stand with Representative HUTCHINSON and myself to provide our communities with protection from these dangerous illegal meth labs. Vote "yes" on the Hutchinson amendment.

CONGRATULATING CHARLES AND BERNICE COVELLI UPON THEIR FIFTIETH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor the fiftieth wedding anniversary of Charles and Bernice Covelli. They were married fifty years ago last Friday, on March 31, 1950 at the First Christian Church in West Frankfort, Illinois. Charles and Bernice Covelli were both born in West Frankfort, Illinois, which is in my district, and still reside there today. Charles was born to Steve and Mary Covelli and Bernice was born Bernice Stephens to Jack and Lydia Stephens. Together they have one daughter named Debbie Ricci, who is married to Tim Ricci. Debbie and Tim gave Charlie and Bernice two wonderful granddaughters named Chelcee and Lacey.

Charles was the self-employed owner and operator of Covelli's Steve's Place and Italian Restaurant in Royalton, Illinois for fifty years. Charlie also served in the United States Army and now is retired. Bernice was a employee of the Illinois State Board of Education for thirty years and is also now retired. In their retirements, Charlie and Bernice both enjoy spending time with their grandchildren. Charlie, a sports fan, also like attending sporting events and Bernice enjoys reading and discussing politics.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all my colleagues in the House of Representatives in wishing a happy anniversary to Charles and Bernice Covelli. I know that this is a very special time for the Covellis, their family and friends, and I am honored to have this opportunity to commemorate their fiftieth wedding anniversary in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.